



NEWS RELEASE

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May 17, 2019

Director Charged With Arson, Child Abuse

Film director Scott Speer pleaded not guilty today to charges stemming from an alleged domestic violence incident last month, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Speer (dob 6/5/82) was charged in case LA090495 with one felony count each of arson, injuring a spouse, child abuse, criminal threats and resisting arrest. He pleaded not guilty today and is expected to return for a preliminary hearing setting on June 17 in Department 122 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Van Nuys Branch.

On April 18, Speer allegedly got into an argument with his wife and hit her. He is accused of threatening to set things on fire at their Hollywood Hills residence, lighting a broom on fire, and placing the burning broom next to the house.

The couple's 7-month-old daughter was inside the home during the incident, prosecutors said. The fire was extinguished and Speer was arrested.

If convicted as charged, Speer faces a possible maximum sentence of 11 years and eight months in state prison.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department.

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.